

THE
JEWISH
DAILY

FORWARD

MARCH 1983

שער זהב

ADAR / NISAN 5743

Full Page Ad

Letter to Board of Rabbis Placed in 'Jewish Bulletin'

IN THE STRONGEST DISPLAY of gay Jewish solidarity ever witnessed by the Bay Area Jewish community, gay and lesbian Jews purchased a full page ad in the February 11 issue of the *Jewish Bulletin* protesting the Board of Rabbis' recent statement of support for Mayor Feinstein's veto of the domestic partner's legislation.

Entitled "An Open Letter to the Board of Rabbis" (see box), and signed by over 150 people, the letter expresses the community's anger at the language and the attitudes embodied in the Board of Rabbis' December, 1982 letter to the Mayor.

During the period in which the domestic partner's legislation was reviewed by the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Feinstein, and following the highly-publicized position of Archbishop Quinn opposing the legislation, the Board of Rabbis more quietly transmitted to the Mayor a similar statement urging rejection of the legislation.

The Board's letter read, in part:

"... it is our particular concern as religious leaders that the validity of the nuclear family must be upheld and not be further eroded by public policy... the Jewish tradition is based on the holiness of the nuclear family, and we must oppose any legislation which would undermine this strength..."

Following the release of the Board's letter to the press, members of the gay Jewish community as well as non-gay supporters rallied to form the Jewish Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The Coalition set as its first purpose an organized response to the Board's letter.

With representatives from Sha'ar Zahav, Ahavat Shalom, the New Jewish Agenda, Gay and Lesbian Jewish Activists, and the Jewish Feminist Conference, the Coalition requested a meeting with the Board to seek clarification of its position and to express the outrage which so many gay and lesbian Jews felt as a result of the Board's statement.

At a December 27 meeting, attended by Sha'ar Zahav representatives Aaron Cooper and Daniel Chesir, Rabbis Malcolm Sparer (Board of Rabbis president) and Martin Weiner (Congregation Sherith Israel) explained that the Board's position was informed by Judaism's opposition to unmarried heterosexual cohabitation, rather than any position on gay relationships. Judaism has no clear view of gay

(continued on page 3)

Congregational Seder Tuesday, March 29

OUR ANNUAL SECOND NIGHT CONGREGATIONAL SEDER will be held Tuesday evening, March 29, 1983 at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn at Van Ness and Pine. Our Seder meal will be prepared kosher style with recipes provided by members of the Oneg Committee. Meals from the Kosher Nutrition Project will be available upon request.

Make your reservations now. Family and friends are most welcome and add to our celebration of this holiday of freedom from slavery. The deadline for ticket sales is March 22. Tickets are \$22 for members, \$26 for non-members and \$16 for children. Some financial subsidies are available.

Members and friends are invited to participate in our Matzoh Cover Project, by which we hope to add to the *haimishness* of this important evening. Making, using and sharing a matzoh cover with family and friends is a wonderful way to demonstrate our spirit and love for one another. For further details on both the Matzoh Cover Project and financial subsidies for the Seder, please contact Paul Cohen (929-9524) or Shelley Spiro (824-6638).

Family Seders

IN ADDITION TO the Congregational Seder, small family-style seders are being organized in the homes of members and friends. These Family Seders will be held the first night of Pesach, Monday, March 28.

For those whose families may not be in the Bay Area, this will be an opportunity to celebrate Pesach with members of Sha'ar Zahav's extended family. Seder groups of from four to 10 people are planned. All those attending a seder are expected to share in various aspects of the seder preparation and costs, and are encouraged to fully participate in the seder celebration.

If you would like to go to or host a Family Seder, please fill out and mail the following form. This form *must* be received no later than Monday, March 7, to allow time for seder group coordination and food planning. The main responsibility of the seder host will be to provide a home in which to have the seder—the guests share in the food preparation responsibilities.

Seder Reservation Forms are on Page 6

Va'ad Report

A 70-YEAR-OLD MORMON CHURCH in the Upper Market area was the site of February's Va'ad meeting, as the Va'ad toured and discussed this property as a potential "Home of Our Own."

The Building Site Committee earlier in the month visited the property and recommended it for serious consideration by the Congregation.

Although sentiment was generally favorable about the building, no decision can be made until a clearer position is developed on general synagogue priorities, based on fiscal realities.

A special Va'ad meeting was scheduled for Sunday, February 20 to examine the financial implications underlying both a rabbinic search process and building acquisition. The Va'ad furthermore reiterated its desire and intention to survey the full membership on the issue of priorities, and to hold a special Congregational meeting for full and open discussion on these matters.

Other Va'ad business included:

- Nancy Meyer was welcomed as the newest Va'ad member, filling the position vacated last month by Glenn Friedman.

- Allan Gold's treasurer's report indicated that over the next four months of this fiscal year, revenues are not likely to keep pace with expenditures, forcing us to touch the fund balance in order to maintain Congregational activities at their present level.

- Cheryl Orvis reported on a very favorable reception to a panel discussion on "Judaism and Homosexuality" at the UAHC biennial convention in Stockton last month.

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 12 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, PO Box 5640, San Francisco, California 94101, (415) 921-7612. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given; credit would be appreciated.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due on the 10th of the month. It should be sent to the Synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Larry Chandler (editor & typesetter), Alex Ingersoll (production), Chuck Norton and Bart Benderoff (distribution) and Bruce Katz (coordinator).

The display advertising rate is \$10 per column inch with a frequency discount of 10% for six or more insertions. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. Ads should be camera ready. Any advertising that requires typesetting, camera and/or artwork is subject to a one-time production charge. Payment must accompany order and should be sent to the Synagogue Office, marked attention *Forward* advertising. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the Synagogue Office 921-7612.

President's Column

A NUMBER OF EXCITING Congregational events have taken place in the last few weeks and I want to share some thoughts concerning these "happenings." First, the Women's Havurah Dinner.

On February 11, a wonderful Women's Havurah Special Service was enjoyed by members and friends of the Congregation. The service was preceded by a delicious meal for women prepared by the Kosher Nutrition Project during which the women enjoyed lively and interesting conversation, the perfect complement to good food and good company! A women-led service appropriately capped this special Shabbat. That women lead services and otherwise participate in the ritual life of the Congregation is not "special"—it is the way we operate. It is special, however, to have had so many of us spend that evening together and I look forward eagerly to our next such gathering. A special thank you to Alita Rosenfeld, Leslie Bergson, Ellyn Bloomfield, Nancy Meyer, Irene Ogus, Leila Raim and Talia Shafir for their efforts that evening.

I certainly hope to see you at the March 18 Friday Forum featuring a speaker from Women Against Violence in Pornography and the Media, a nationally respected activist organization.

While on the subject of the Women's Havurah, I want to announce the appointment of Nancy Meyer, Havurah Chair, to the Va'ad (Board of Directors). The resurgence of the Havurah as an active and vital component of Sha'ar Zahav is due, in large part, to Nancy's willingness to have stayed with it for lo, these many months! Mazel tov to you, Nancy. I very much look forward to working together on the Va'ad.

"Megillah Madness," our Purim celebration extraordinaire, took place on February 25, and what a night it was! The service was lovely, the costumes were great and a wonderful time was had by all. And while on the subject of costumes—in spite of the many remarks to the contrary, I did *not* come as a Pop Tart. . . I thought I was a clearly identifiable hamentash! In any case, it was a lot of fun and whenever a lot of fun is had by many it is because of the efforts of a group, usually headed by an individual of dedication, vision and limitless energy. "Megillah Madness" had such a parent—Allan Berenstein. Allan stayed with this project through thick and thin (read: design, discussion, meetings, input, redesign, more discussion. . .). What emerged as Allan's handiwork was an organization of volunteers who joined together to accept responsibility for creating this event. And create it they did! On behalf of the entire Congregation and our guests who enjoyed the evening, I want to especially thank the following people: Allan Berenstein, David Stein, Alex Ingersoll, Jon Funk, Eric Keitel, Elliott Klein, Leslie Bergson, Nancy Meyer, Ron Lezell, Paul Cohen, Allan Gold and others. Special thanks to the Public Relations committee for assistance in publicity and to Chuck Norton for mailing assistance. And special thanks also to all of the Congregation's helpers who kept the evening going.

(continued on page 7)

and lesbian relationships, the Rabbis stated, while unmarried heterosexual unions are outside acceptable Jewish tradition.

Rabbi Weiner indicated that in the eyes of the Jewish rabbinic community, the two lifestyles pose distinctly differing issues. As such, he added, it was politically inopportune for the gay community to involve itself in legislation which the Board of Rabbis could not endorse owing to the heterosexual implications.

The Coalition asked the Board to issue such a clarification, which it refused to do. Subsequently, the Coalition decided to bring the issue to the wider community through the "Open Letter."

Funds to subsidize the cost of the "Open Letter" were raised through private contributions and allocations by both Congregations Sha'ar Zahav and Ahavat Shalom.

Police-Gay Relations At Friday Forum March 25

Police Officer Paul Seidler, liaison with the gay and lesbian communities, will speak on "Gays and Cops: What are the Problems and What are the Solutions?" as part of our Friday Forum series on Friday evening, March 25, after services. All members and friends of the Congregation are invited.

Mazel Tov!

Mazel tov to our brother Jerry Krieger, a long-time member of sibling Congregation Beth Chayim Chadashim of Los Angeles, who has been sworn in as a Municipal Court judge in Los Angeles.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE BOARD OF RABBIS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

On December 9, 1982, the San Francisco Section of the Northern California Board of Rabbis issued a statement urging Mayor Feinstein to veto the proposed domestic partnership legislation. This legislation would award to partners in committed unmarried relationships the rights to visit one another in hospitals and jails, to take funeral leave in the case of a partner's death, and to purchase employee-paid health insurance.

The Board of Rabbis' statement said, in part, "... it is our particular concern as religious leaders that the validity of the nuclear family must be upheld and not be further eroded by public policy. . . . The Jewish tradition is based on the holiness of marriage and the maintenance of the nuclear family, and we must oppose any legislation which would undermine this strength."

We are deeply angered by the Board's action.

The Board's statement fails to demonstrate, in any way, that the domestic partnership legislation would affect the existing rights of families. The intent of this legislation is to extend limited civil benefits to persons in committed relationships who are not formally married—benefits long available to married couples.

The Board repeats the arguments that this legislation would "eventually put an intolerable burden on health and pension systems," yet provides no substantiation for its allegation. In fact, during hearings on this legislation, no evidence was presented showing any adverse fiscal impact on the city health and pension systems.

The Board claims this is not a question of civil rights. What else could it be? As Jews, we all know that equal protection and equal access to employment benefits are basic civil rights. Lesbians and gay men are frequently denied opportunities to visit hospitalized lovers or to take funeral leave to mourn their loved ones. As Jews, we believe lesbians and gay men are entitled to equal treatment.

We are particularly angered by the Board's resort to code words which are the rallying cry of the fundamentalist extreme right. The Board's statement exalts the "nuclear family," even though the "nuclear family" is not a traditional Jewish concept. We believe that Judaism's profound concern for families is best expressed by "mishpacha," which includes all members of our families: grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and, of course, those of us who are lesbian and gay. Indeed, for Jews, our concept of "family" extends to take in our entire community.

The Board of Rabbis is well aware that there are thousands of gay and lesbian Jews in the Bay Area and a growing number of organizations and congregations serving this segment of the Jewish community. We are angered that the Board did not contact any Jewish gays or lesbians to discuss this critical matter before issuing its statement. We expect that when the Board considers future action which will affect the lives of lesbian and gay Jews that consultation will take place—particularly when the Board intends to influence legislation by representing itself as the authoritative religious voice of Northern California Jewry.

On December 27, 1982, representatives of the Jewish Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights met with members of the Board of Rabbis. The Coalition expressed the anger of lesbian and gay Jews about the Board's recent action and asked for clarification of the Board's position on civil rights affecting lesbians and gays. The Coalition reminded the Board that revised domestic partnership legislation will be resubmitted in the near future. We hope that as a result of this meeting the Board gained a greater understanding of the need for equal treatment of lesbians and gay men. We now have an opportunity to bridge this gap dividing our community. If it is true that as a people "we are one," we need to support each other.

(Signed by over 150 people)

This letter was sponsored by the *Jewish Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights*, which was formed for the purpose of advocacy within the Jewish community on the cause of Lesbian and Gay human rights, and to ensure a Jewish presence within the movement for Lesbian and Gay rights. Publication of this letter is co-sponsored by Congregations Ahavat Shalom and Sha'ar Zahav.

The Coalition is comprised of concerned individuals and representatives

from several organizations including the Bay Area Chapter of New Jewish Agenda, Congregation Ahavat Shalom, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Lesbian and Gay Jewish Activists, and The Lost Tribe.

The Coalition may be contacted by writing to: Jewish Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, c/o 537 Jones St., #8364, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Election Committee Report

CHERYL ORVIS has formed the 1983 Election Committee. Serving on the committee are Don Albert, Chairperson, David Gellman, Betty Kalis, Gerry Rosenstein, and Cheryl Orvis. The Committee's responsibility is to supervise the election and nominate Officer candidates and candidates for the Member-at-Large positions on the Va'ad.

This year we will be electing a President, Vice President, Recorder, and Treasurer, as well as five members of the Va'ad.

In February, a letter was sent out to all members of the Congregation inviting their participation in the election process. Throughout the next several months the Committee will be evaluating candidates and making recommendations. The election process also allows candidates to run by petition. Individuals who are not nominated and still have a strong desire to run for office may do so by submitting a request in writing no later than April 1, signed only by themselves, and they will be listed as a petition candidate.

All members of the Congregation will be receiving information on each of the individuals running and will have an opportunity to hear presentations on Shabat Candidates' Nights which will be held May 6 and May 13.

The election will take place at the semi-annual Congregational meeting Sunday May 15.

What Our Siblings Are Up To

Boston (Am Tikva): Their first conversion service was conducted in October. Sixth Anniversary celebrated January 30.

Chicago (Or Chadash): Cancelled blood drive because the Red Cross would not accept blood from gay men. Refused to hold a lesbian-only blood drive as that was thought to be divisive.

Houston (Aytz Chayim): Members donated funds to purchase gifts for a "deserving Jewish family" experiencing hard economic times. Building fund started.

London (Jewish Gay Group): Instrumental in publication of book *Jewish and Homosexual* by Reform Synagogues of Great Britain.

Los Angeles (Beth Chayim Chadashim): Disbursement of 7th International Conference surplus funds: \$200 to Israel Levin Center (senior adult center); \$200 to Etz Chaim in Miami to help set up the 8th International Conference; \$180 for BCC delegates to future conferences; \$100 to Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center; \$100 to ACLU Gay Rights Chapter Legal Fund; \$100 to Tikvah Chadashah in Seattle to help in financial crisis; \$100 to National Gay Archives; \$50 to World Congress Book Drive; \$500 to BCC "Tree of Life."

Miami (Etz Chaim): Workshop on being Gay and Jewish at Southeastern Biennial Convention of UAHC.

New York (Beth Simchat Torah): Lesbian outreach attracted 75 women to Sunday brunch with talks by women on why they attend services. Successful bazaar held with other community groups. Fundraising Night at the Circus April 30 to benefit AIDS.

Philadelphia: (Beth Ahavah): Leadership training seminar led by UAHC Pennsylvania Council. Adopted a Soviet "refusenik" family in Leningrad, with whom members are corresponding.

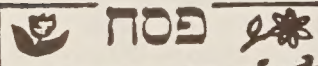
Seattle: (Tikvah Chadashah): Second Anniversary celebrated December 17 at Interfaith Hanukkah Party.

Tel Aviv (Society for the Protection of Personal Rights): Reported on the recent harassment of gay men and lesbians in Israel, including intimidation in the Israeli army and police raids in Tel Aviv's Independence Park. A representative of SPPR was invited to speak on an Israeli TV current affairs program only to be cancelled a few hours before telecast. The speaker was interviewed instead by *Ha'olam Ha'ze* (This World), Israel's largest political weekly.

Washington, DC (Bet Mishpachah): Recent talk by Evelyn Torton Beck, editor of *Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology*.

Oneg . . . Joy . . . Oneg . . . Pleasure

Contribute to the spirit of Shabbat by assisting with the Oneg. Set out the cakes, cookies, coffee and tea with your own special touch. Phone Aaron Cooper at 821-4257 to see "I'll help."


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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		א 1	ב 2	ג 3	ד 4 Stockton Conference Discussion	ה 5 Ritual Committee
ו 6	ז 7	ח 8	ט 9	י 10 Newsletter Deadline	יא 11	יב 12
יג 13 Women's Havurah Dinner	יד 14 Va'ad Meeting	טו 15 Rosh Chodesh	טז 16	יז 17	יח 18 Forum: Women Against Violence	יט 19
כ 20	כא 21	כב 22	כג 23	כד 24	כה 25 Forum: Gays & Cops	כו 26
כז 27	כח 28 Family Seders	כט 29 Pesach Congregational Seder	ל 30	א 31		

Ritual Calendar

Friday, March 4	Shabbat Parah Torah: Ki-Tissa Ex. 30:11-34:35 Special Torah Reading: Num. 19:1-22 Haftorah: Ezekiel 36:16-38 Paul Cohen, Services Stockton Conference Discussion
Friday, March 11	Shabbat ha-Hodesh Torah Va-Yakhel—Pekudei, Ex. 35:1-40:38 Special Torah Reading: Ex. 12:1-20 Haftorah: Ezekiel 46:16-46:18 Leslie Bergson, Services Torah Service
Friday, March 18	Torah Va-Yikra, Lev. 1:1-5:26 Haftorah: Isaiah 43:21-44:23 Dubi Barcan and Peter Hayn, Services
Friday, March 25	Shabbat ha-Gadol Torah Tzav, Lev. 6:1-8:36 Haftorah: Malachi 3:4-24 Daniel Chesir, Services

'Violence Against Women In Media' Forum March 18

A representative of "Women Against Violence in Pornography and the Media" will speak as part of our Friday Forum series on Friday March 18. This group is concerned about the ways violence against women and children is portrayed on television and in the print media. They have recently been successful in having a record album cover withdrawn for depicting a woman being assaulted. This Friday Evening Forum presentation should be of great interest to all members and friends of the Congregation.

Services are held each Friday night at 8:15 at the Jewish Community Center, 3200 California (at Presidio) in San Francisco.

Please call the Synagogue office (921-7612) for details regarding committee meetings and other Synagogue business.

SHA'AR ZAHAV FAMILY SEDER FORM
March 28

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ Work _____

If you wish to attend with another person, write the name here and send both forms together:

Participation:

Check *all* items you would consider doing. Seder groups will be arranged so that all will share in the preparation:

- ☐ Provide a home in which to have a seder
Number you can accommodate (include yourself) _____
- ☐ Cook seder dinner (food and all costs to be shared by all participants).
- ☐ Provide part of seder dinner or wine
- ☐ Provide ritual items and food (Maror, haroset, horseradish, seder plate, matzoh cover, small gift for Afikoman finder, etc.). Please underline items.
- ☐ Lead service.
- ☐ Call others in your seder group and be responsible for coordinating the seder preparation
- ☐ Traditional service
- ☐ Short, informal service

Other considerations: Kosher or vegetarian meal required, allergies to smoke or pets, have pets in your home (please underline items)

Compatible seder groups will be arranged, to the extent possible, based on the responses to this form.

MAIL TO: Family Seder Groups
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
PO Box 5640
San Francisco, CA 94101

by 3/7

Scholarships

The Jewish Vocational & Career Counseling Service is offering five new scholarship programs for Jewish men and women who live in San Francisco, Marin or the Peninsula. For more information please call Gail Persily at 391-3595.

Sponsor an Oneg

Remember or honor a special event or person by sponsoring an Oneg. Underwrite the cost of refreshments for one Shabbat eve, and/or select your own menu and provide the food in your own special style. To reserve an Oneg, phone Susan at the Synagogue office, 921-7612.

CONGREGATIONAL SEDER RESERVATION FORM
March 29

Please reserve places for

_____ members

_____ non-members

_____ children

as follows (indicate number of each):

_____ Kosher Nutrition Project Meals

_____ Kosher-style meals

_____ Vegetarian meals

☐ My check for \$_____ is enclosed.

☐ Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Hold paid confirmation of reservations in my name:

Tickets will be given out at the door.

MAIL TO: Congregational Seder
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
PO Box 5640
San Francisco, CA 94101

by 3/2

Gay Men's Chorus Tickets

Tickets are available for the Gay Men's Chorus performance Tuesday April 12 at the Opera House. A block of Grand Tier seats at \$15 each has been purchased. For further information contact Allan Berenstein at 570-6784 or the Congregation's office 921-7612. Call early. Seats are limited.

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Lastly, I want to share some of the weekend of January 21-23 with you. I spent that time in Stockton at the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the Northern California Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), the National Reform Movement, of which our Congregation is a member. In addition to myself, Vice President Mike Rankin and Ritual Committee members Leslie Bergson and Daniel Chesir spent the weekend at the Stockton Hilton so as to participate fully in the workshops scheduled and to meet as many representatives of other synagogues as possible. On Saturday, in spite of a major rainstorm, Aaron Cooper (schlepping T-shirts which we successfully sold!), Jerry Rosenstein and Rob Tat drove to Stockton for the day. We were able to cover all of the workshops of relevance and interest to Sha'ar Zahav and have made available to the Congregation some of the materials from the Biennial Conference.

Workshops and seminars covered the gamut of Congregation issues, including programming, Temple finances, orientation programs for the Board, among others. Of special interest to you as a Congregant and friend of Sha'ar Zahav was the discussion on "Judaism and Homosexuality" which we hosted. Through the efforts of Aaron Cooper, our seminar was put on the agenda and, in spite of formidable competition—lunch!—we drew of the largest crowds of any seminar. There was much good discussion and participants spoke about the valuable clarification we offered on a wide range of issues, especially why we feel the desire to participate in a synagogue with a largely gay and lesbian membership. I was honestly impressed with the open and communicative nature of almost all participants.

The other Sha'ar Zahav representatives and myself will be discussing the Stockton experience in detail Friday night March 4, and I hope you will attend that discussion. For now, I'll close by saying that I was very pleased with the reception we received, with the fact that I was asked by Rabbi Morris Hershman, Director of the Region, to moderate a workshop on Board Orientation Programs; with the reception Daniel Chesir received when he spoke for our group on behalf of the "Gay Civil Rights Bill" pending in Sacramento; and with the overall acknowledgement of our participation which was expressed to me by Rabbi Hershman and others. The weekend was well spent.

I look forward to seeing you at our Congregation Seder Tuesday March 29 and wish you a very joyous and fulfilling Pesach.

From strength to strength,

—Cheryl

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They Know About Us In Jerusalem!

A DETAILED, SENSITIVE, ACCURATE and very positive article about Congregation Sha'ar Zahav appeared in the Israeli edition of the *Jerusalem Post* which appeared December 19.

The article was written by Geoffrey Wigoder, who had attended our services several weeks before. It covered the history of the Congregation, our goals and aspirations. Mr. Wigoder summarized the sermon that was given by Dubi Barcan and commented on the poignant beauty of a man describing his coming out while his mother was sitting with his lover during the Shabbat service.

The author wrote of our de-genderizing the liturgy and noted that the president of the Congregation is a woman. He mentioned what to him must have seemed remarkable: a woman in yarmulke and tallis blowing the shofar on Rosh Hashana.

"They publish a monthly bulletin called *The Jewish Gaily Forward*," he writes, "which chronicles an impressive spectrum of activities—visiting the sick and the aged, Soviet Jewry, Lebanese Relief, educational programmes, social action, music circle, and ceremonies including bar and bat mitzvot, funerals and weddings (lesbian, gay and non-gay).

A copy of the article was sent to us by Jonathan Danilovitz, International Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights in Tel Aviv. Jonathan says that positive articles and gay, lesbian and feminist issues have appeared recently in *Ha'aretz* and *Al-Hamishmar*.

The group in Israel is thriving. They too had a Chanukah service and auction on December 18, and have a congregational outing coming up led by a professional guide who is donating his time and services.

For those of you who would like to be with Jonathan and his friends, he has asked us to publicize the telephone number: 03-612457. They are always happy to welcome visitors from America.

Women's Havurah Dinner

Join the Women's Havurah on Sunday March 13 for dinner and a discussion of the role of women in Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. This event, which will also be an opportunity for women to socialize, will start at 5 p.m. Dinner will be served between 7 and 8 p.m. The meeting place will be at Noble Pies Restaurant, 24th and Douglas Streets in Noe Valley. The cost is \$6. You may choose either a meat or vegetarian dinner. To reserve a place, please return the coupon below by March 8.

I/We will attend the March 13 dinner. Enclosed is \$_____ (\$6. per person) for my/our dinner reservation.

☐ Meat

☐ Vegetarian

Name(s) _____

Mail to: Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, PO Box 5640, San Francisco, Ca 94101.

March Yahrzeits

- 1 (16 Adar) Mollie P., mother of Hal P.
- 1 (16 Adar) Joseph M. Cohen, father of Paul Cohen
- 2 Fannie Leiss, mother of Walt Leiss
- 2 (17 Adar) Helen Pechter, mother of Bernard Pechter
- 2 (17 Adar) Phyllis Litman, sister of Aaron Jackson
- 10 Fanny Post, grandmother of Henry Carrey
- 11 Hannah Goodman, aunt of Eric Keitel
- 16 Ariel Thal, father of Sam Thal
- 20 Minnie Tonn, grandmother of Allan Gold
- 22 (8 Nisan) Max Pechter, father of Bernard Pechter
- 27 James Robert Rankin, father of Mike Rankin

March Happy Birthdays!

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Arthur Slepian | 23 Chris Knepper |
| 5 Ed Pollock | 25 Randy Weiss |
| 6 Naomi Baran | 25 Ric Bornstein |
| 9 James Dobkins | 27 Mark Feldman |
| 10 Dana Vinicoff | 29 Bart Benderoff |
| 11 Jessie Lee Ap'Neva | 29 Dov Ben Khayyim |
| 17 Roger Gross | 29 Harold Parker |
| 19 Rachel Wahba | 30 Joe Goldberg |
| 21 Larry Cohen | 30 Susan Greenspan |
| 23 Suzy Ganz | 31 Barbara Collier |

CLASSIFIED ADS

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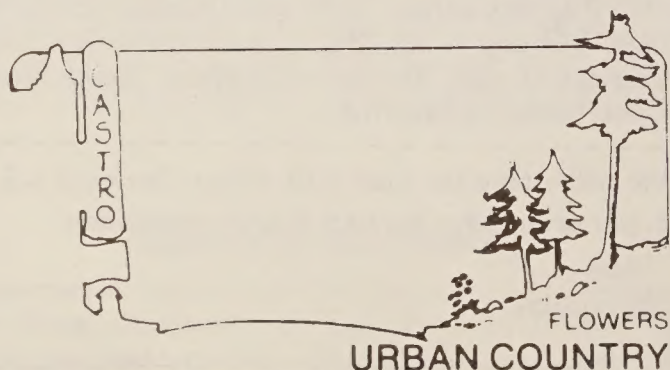
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LETTERS

The *Jewish Gaily Forward* welcomes letters. Please keep them brief. The *Forward* reserves the right to edit letters. Send letters to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, PO Box 5640, San Francisco 94101, attention *Forward* letters.

To Congregation Sha'ar Zahav:

On behalf of our UAHC Northern California Council, and in particular those who attended our convention, we express our thanks to you for your participation in the Thirteenth Biennial Convention which was held in Stockton recently.

We were pleased that you offered to conduct a session on Judaism and Homosexuality. There were favorable comments on the session, and your contribution and participation was significant and much appreciated.

The response to the convention has been gratifying in every respect, and we are certain that our member congregations benefited from this program. Many thanks for your unique contribution.

—Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Northern California Council
Mark Levi, Chairman
Convention Program
Joseph Podolsky, President
Northern California Council
Rabbi Morris M. Hershman
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